

29. The method of claim 19, wherein the first of said plurality of zones is a single track.

30. The method of claim 21 including the step of:
performing a burnishing process by allowing the head to contact the disk surface when the measured amplitude is outside of the predetermined tolerance in comparison to the running average.

31. The method of claim 21 including the step of:
verifying that the block of data written onto the disk surface was properly written when the measured amplitude is outside of the predetermined tolerance in comparison to the running average.

32. The method of claim 31 including the step of:
performing a burnishing process by allowing the head to contact the disk surface when the block of data written onto the disk surface could not be verified as being properly written.

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33. A disk drive comprising:
a disk surface that is divided into a plurality of zones, the disk surface having a
plurality of AGC fields stored thereon;
a head associated with the disk surface, wherein said head is used to measure
amplitudes of a plurality of AGC fields in a first of said plurality of zones; and,
circuitry for calculating a calibrated value based upon the measured amplitudes,
wherein the head stores the calibrated value onto the disk surface.

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34. The disk drive of claim 33, wherein the head reads the calibrated value from
the disk surface and stores the calibrated value in memory, wherein the head measures an
amplitude of an AGC field in the first of said plurality of zones in response to a write
command and wherein circuitry is used to compare the measured amplitude to the calibrated
value.

35. The disk drive of claim 34, wherein the head writes a block of data onto the
disk surface in a data sector associated with the AGC field in the first of said plurality of
zones and wherein circuitry is used to determine whether the measured amplitude is within
a predetermined tolerance in comparison to the calibrated value.

36. A method for use in a disk drive having a disk surface divided into a plurality of zones, the method comprising the steps of:

measuring amplitudes of a plurality of AGC fields stored on the disk surface on a zone-by-zone basis; and,
5 storing, on the disk surface, calibrated values corresponding to each zone based upon the measured amplitudes.

37. The method of claim 36 including the steps of:

receiving a write command to write a block of data in a first of said plurality of zones;
measuring an amplitude of an AGC field in the first of said plurality of zones in response to the write command; and,
5 comparing the measured amplitude to a calibrated value corresponding with the first of the plurality of zones.

38. The method of claim 37 including the steps of:

writing the block of data onto the disk surface in a data sector associated with the AGC field in the first of said plurality of zones; and,
determining whether the measured amplitude is within a predetermined tolerance in
5 comparison to the calibrated value corresponding with the first of the plurality of zones.